

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

Claims 112-153 were previously pending in the application. The Applicants have amended claims 114, 116, and 119. Claims 112, 113, 115, 117, 118, 136, and 137 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 114, 116, 119, 120-135, and 138-153 remain in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 120-135, and 138-153.

Claims 114 and 116 were objected to as to being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant has rewritten claims 114 and 116 in this manner. Therefore, the allowance of amended claims 114 and 116 is respectfully requested.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 112-113, 115, 117-119, 137 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gellhaus, et al. (US 6,034,949) in view of Inoue, et al. (US 6,240,514).

The Examiner rejected claims 136 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gellhaus, et al. (US 6,034,949) in view of Fisher, et al. (US 5,889,772).

The Applicants have canceled claims 112, 113, 115, 117, 118, 136, and 137.

Regarding claim 119, the Applicants have amended claim 119 to better distinguish the claimed invention from Gellhaus and Inoue. Claim 119 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 112 and intervening claim 118. In addition, claim 119 has been amended to positively recite that

the transmission means includes means for transmitting the data packets with an associated transmission reliability mode. This limitation is similar to allowable claim 116, but it was not previously recited positively in claim 119.

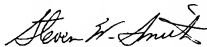
The Examiner points to Gellhaus column 2, lines 17-40 for teaching that the transmission means includes means for associating each indicated transmission protocol with a transmission reliability mode. The Applicants have reviewed Gellhaus in its entirety, and can find no teaching or suggestion of associating each transmission protocol, as indicated by a field in each received data packet, with a transmission reliability mode. In addition, the added limitation of means for transmitting the data packets with the associated transmission reliability mode is not taught or suggested by Gellhaus or Inoue. Therefore, the allowance of amended claim 119 is respectfully requested.

4.) Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 114, 116, 119, 120-135, and 138-153.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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